

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the present application, new claims 16-18 having been added as indicated herein. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Mano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,793,366) and in view of Lawande et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,247), and new claims 12-15, which were added in the Preliminary Amendment dated June 6, 2005, are also rejected for the same reasons. The Examiner reviewed the arguments set forth in the Preliminary Amendment dated June 6, 2005, and adds new arguments in the *Response to Applicant's Arguments* section of the present Office Action.

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant maintains the previously submitted argument that neither Mano nor Lawande, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest at least, "receiving a predetermined signal that indicates changes in the operation states of the server devices from the server devices by the client device and displaying the change in the operation state of specific server device on a screen thereof," as recited in claim 1. The Examiner relies on the graphical user interface (GUI) 10 shown in Figures 1 and 2 of Mano as allegedly satisfying the claimed client device which receives a predetermined signal that indicates changes in the operation state from the server devices. There is nothing in Mano to teach or suggest that the GUI 10 is, in fact, a client device in the system of Mano. Further, even if, *arguendo*, the GUI 10 is part of a computer in the system shown therein, there is nothing in Mano that teaches or suggests that the computer that includes the GUI would have been a client in the system described in Mano. Moreover, the Examiner does not explain how the GUI allegedly is, or is part of, a client device.

Further, even if it could be understood by one skilled in the art that the “nodes” referred to in Lawande could refer to a client device, there is still no teaching or suggestion that the control display window or GUI described in Mano is a client device or a component thereof.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant maintains that claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the applied references, either alone or in combination.

Applicant maintains that dependent claims 2-4, 8, and 9 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

Further, with respect to dependent claim 2, Applicant maintains that the applied references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest at least that, “the client device establishes said communication channel with respect to the server devices by periodic polling in the step (a),” as recited in claim 2.

Applicant maintains that independent claims 5, 6, and 7 are patentable at least for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 1. With respect to dependent claims 10 and 11, Applicant maintains that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 6.

Finally, Applicant adds new claims 16-18 to provide a varying scope of coverage. Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies. *See page 6, lines 4-21 of specification.*

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/445,769

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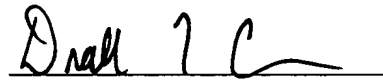
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